

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council

3b. GSA Committee No.

2040

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

03/05/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

03/05/2020

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Section 309

13. Effective Date

10/21/1976

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this FiscalYear

17a. Open 0 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 0 Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$26,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$6,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$1,000.00

18d. Total	\$0.00	\$35,000.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.20

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

Rocky Mountain RAC members are updated and involved in all aspects of land management and provide advice and recommendations to the BLM Designated Federal Officer and managers for the Royal Gorge, Gunnison and San Luis Valley Field Offices. This is done primarily through RAC meetings and workshops where the members convey public opinion and guidance on public land issues. The BLM strongly considers RAC members' recommendations and advice on public land management issues.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Rocky Mountain RAC is typically composed of 15 members balanced among the following groups and within those groups. Specific interests are represented by three categories, each containing five members. Category 1 includes individuals holding federal grazing permits or leases, interests associated with transportation or rights-of-way, developed outdoor recreation, OHV users, or commercial recreation activities, commercial timber industry, or energy and mineral development. Category 2 includes nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, dispersed recreation activities, archaeological and historical interests, or nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups. Category 3 includes state, county, or locally elected office holders, employees of State agencies responsible for the management of natural resources, members of Indian Tribes, persons employed as academicians in natural resource management or the natural sciences, or those who represent the public-at-large.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Rocky Mountain RAC did not meet in FY18. Meetings are typically held once a quarter, and when appropriate, held on-site to discuss a specific local issue such as water rights or land management prescriptions. Meeting topics are generally based on current issues and therefore recommendations are timely and relevant. If the RAC achieves a quorum and meets in FY19, topics may include the Eastern Colorado RMP, Browns Canyon NM RMP, bighorn sheep habitat and domestic sheep grazing, homeless populations on public lands, proposals for new recreation site fees, and/or trespass and range management. The committee will continue to represent the broad range of public and stakeholder interests in public lands management.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

RAC members are important in involving public opinion in the BLM decision-making

process. The RAC represents a diverse and well-informed cross-section of the public and provides advice and recommendations on public land management issues. RAC members are often more familiar with public land management issues than the general public, but are able to represent public concerns and bring a different yet informed perspective to the BLM. RAC members interact with the public and their stakeholder groups to encourage input and participation at meetings. This often helps with the resolution of issues.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All meetings are open to the public. Notices of the meetings are published in the Federal Register, posted on the BLM Colorado website, and distributed to local newspapers.

21. Remarks

The Rocky Mountain RAC did not meet in FY18.

Designated Federal Officer

Catherine Cook BLM Rocky Mountain District Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Anderson, Jason	12/19/2016	12/19/2019	Saguache County Commissioner	Representative Member
Cesario, Roger	12/19/2016	01/12/2019	Dispersed Recreation	Representative Member
Chamberland, Philip	12/19/2016	01/12/2019	Elected Official	Representative Member
Cocciolone, Ashley	03/11/2016	03/11/2019	Regulatory Manager	Representative Member
Dvorak, William	03/11/2016	03/11/2019	Rafting Outfitter/Guide	Representative Member
Irby, Dale	12/19/2016	01/12/2019	Grazing Permits/Leases	Representative Member
Johnson, Jara	03/11/2016	03/11/2019	Deputy Water Commissioner Hydrographer	Representative Member
Shy, Christopher	12/19/2016	12/19/2019	Custer County Surveyor	Representative Member
Wadsworth, Kathryn	03/11/2016	03/11/2019	Ski and Ride School Director, Monarch Mountain	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 9

Narrative Description

The RAC brings additional public opinion and involvement to the BLM. Rocky Mountain RAC members are often more familiar with public land management issues than the general public. They are better able to represent public concerns and often bring a different perspective to the Designated Federal Officer and other BLM employees.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>

Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The RAC meetings give the public an additional opportunity to provide comments and discuss issues with RAC members and BLM employees. This can result in issues being resolved before they become significant problems. Additionally, this interaction can create solutions to problems.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

An in-depth analysis has not been done to determine cost savings associated with the Rocky Mountain RAC. However, the contributions of the RAC are of great benefit to the BLM.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

30

Number of Recommendations Comments

The RAC did not make any formal recommendations in FY18. The RAC made one formal recommendation in FY17 (to unanimously pass a resolution validating the process taken to date for developing the Eastern CO RMP), and two formal recommendations in FY16. The RAC passed a resolution at its May 2012 meeting to amend its charter so that the RAC would permanently be able to make decisions on BLM recreation fee proposals.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

73%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Most RAC recommendations are implemented, and when they are not, the BLM talks through the reasons why the recommendation cannot be implemented.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

23%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

In past years, the RAC has made recommendations that the BLM has considered but not implemented. An example is the recommendation the RAC made for the Royal Gorge Field Office to conduct another environmental impact statement for the Over the River Project when the proponent asked for a schedule change. Most RAC recommendations are implemented, and when they are not, the BLM discusses why the recommendations cannot be implemented.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

BLM Colorado provides feedback through manager updates given at every RAC meeting. This gives the BLM opportunities to notify RAC members of pressing and topical issues. Another avenue for agency feedback is in the old business part of the agenda for each meeting. The BLM offers updates to what was discussed at the last meeting. Sometimes, this takes the form of e-mails sent in between meetings if a question or topic is raised and the answer cannot be given at the meeting and cannot wait for the next RAC meeting. If further discussion is needed, the topic can become a meeting agenda item.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities

☐

Reallocated resources

☐

Issued new regulation

☐

Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

As a result of the RAC's input, the BLM has found new ways to address certain ongoing issues such as user conflicts at the Cache Creek Area, thanks in large part to advice and ideas shared by RAC members.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A